

## Eligibility for State and Federal Grant Funds

In order to be eligible for state and federal grant funding for improving public safety communications and interoperability in FY 2007 in the Commonwealth of Virginia, applicants must comply with the following:

1. Grant requests must support at least one of the **four goals or initiatives** presented within this Statewide Plan.
2. Applicants must be able to clearly define how the project or equipment purchase improves interoperable communications on a **multi-discipline, local and regional basis**.
3. Applicants must be National Incident Management System (NIMS) certified and compliant. For more information please visit <http://www.fema.gov/nims>.
4. Agencies and organizations must endorse Virginia's **Common Language Best Practice** for day-to-day and major emergency situations. For information regarding the endorsement of the best practice please contact the Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator's Office at (804) 225-3800.
5. Equipment purchased must be on the Department of Homeland Security's Grants and Training (G&T) **Authorized Equipment List (AEL)** or an exception letter must be on file and approved. For more information on the AEL please visit the Responder Knowledge Base at [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/equipment\\_rkb.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/equipment_rkb.htm).
6. Subscriber radios purchased must be programmed with **mutual aid and interoperability channels** (Appendix A).
7. Data sharing equipment purchased must comply with the Department of Homeland Security's and Emergency Interoperability Consortium's **Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL)**.
8. Equipment purchased shall be compatible with the **Project 25 suite of standards** unless an exception is granted by the Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator.
9. Applications for federal funds allocated for improving public safety communications and interoperability shall be **public safety agencies or organizations at the local, tribal, regional, or state level** unless otherwise specified.
10. Applicants must be **compliant with all other federal grant guidance** as provided and appropriate.

